

OTOW SOFTBALL CLUB

APRIL NEWSLETTER



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As many of you are aware, last month the OTOW Board of Directors directed all club presidents to remove all non-resident members from club rosters. The message delivered was clear and concise, "clubs are for OTOW residents only", full stop. Additionally, only residents of "OTOW Central and Candler Hills can participate in clubs or events within OTOW Central amenities". Residents of Indigo East and Weybourne Landing must have the Gateway of Services designation noted on their ID to take part in these activities. Club presidents and organizers are responsible for verifying resident IDs when accepting new members and during meetings and events throughout the year. Failure to properly monitor guest attendance and enforce these policies may result in consequences, including loss of club privileges.

Some of you have heard that our non-resident members were "grandfathered" in several years ago; however, I have been informed multiple times this is not the case. As a result, our Board was mandated in March to inform six long-standing non-resident members this will be their final season with the OTOW Softball Club.

Delivering this news has been incredibly difficult. Jimmy Russo, Mark Reynolds, Larry Krueger, Jose Aponte, Pete Quinones, and Peter Faucetta will be concluding their time with the club this May. Over the years, it has been a true privilege to get to know each of these outstanding individuals who have contributed so much to our softball community, both on and off the field.

I truly wish I had the power to change this situation; however, this is where we are today. Moving forward I encourage everyone to take time over the final weeks of the winter season to seek out opportunities to connect with them, share memories, and celebrate their many years—some spanning nearly two decades—of commitment and camaraderie within the club. Gentleman, you will be missed.



April 1-Pitch Tournament Champions

The month of April has produced two OTOW Championship Teams. Rookie manager Alan Burris led his team to victory earning the coveted Ball in a Bowl 1-Pitch Tournament Championship trophy. A special shout out and thank you to Barry Girsch for once again coordinating this club event. Also we would like to recognize the OTOW 70+ SummerGlen Tournament team who brought home the Championship trophy as well this year! Congratulations to all our players - Well Done.

Summer Glen 70+ Tournament Champions





Summer 2026 Season Registration

As we advance the calendar into the month of April the BOD is busy preparing for the upcoming 2026 summer season. We are anticipating registering enough club members to field 4 or 5 teams of 13 players for the summer. We are also looking for people to step up and agree to manage a team this summer. The summer is a great time to build your leadership skills and understanding of local club rules. If you are interested in learning more, please talk with a BOD member. Barry will be sending out the registration announcements shortly and we would love to get your responses back as soon as possible.



Club Reminder:
Game Start Times
Change This
Monday - April 6th

1st Game - 8:30 AM
2nd Game - 9:45 AM
3rd Game - 11:00 AM

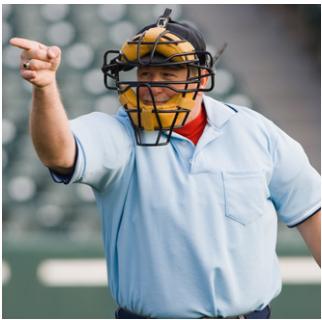


UPCOMING EVENTS

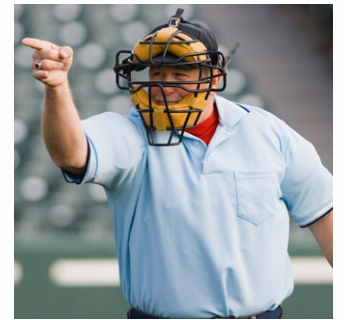
COMING SOON - NEW CLUB WEBSITE

We will be launching our new official club website later this month at <https://otowmenssoftball.org>.

The site will host all the official club news and highlights including all the scores, standings, team rosters, and schedules. Members will also be able to find club local rules and By-Laws, updates on upcoming club events, and review past newsletters.



WEDNESDAY APRIL, 22 UMPIRE CLINIC #2



We will be holding our second umpire training session after the games on Wednesday, 4/22 for club members wishing to help out with umpiring games. We recognize our volunteer umpires are called upon to make a number of key calls each game and this can be a stressful situation for all. We hope to alleviate some of this stress by providing volunteers with additional mentoring to assist our umpiring officials to be in the right place, at the right time, to make the right call in most situations. Through hands on examples and exploration of the many nuanced rules of senior softball we hope these trainings will provide attendees with not just a better understanding of rules of the game but also a more consistent situational application of the rules. Hope to see you there.

UPCOMING EVENTS

STONE CREEK CHALLENGE GAMES SATURDAY, APRIL 18



After a long delay we are finally moving forward with the planning to host two challenge games against the Stone Creek softball clubs. We are tentatively looking at hosting the games at the OTOW softball field on Saturday, April 18th. Game 1 will feature Recreation League players followed by Game 2 with the OTOW Mens League players. We had quite a few players expressing interest in playing back in February and we are hoping this April date will still work for everybody. The games will start shortly after the Co-Ed League completes their game around 12:30 PM. We will have a sign-up sheet at the field next week during our games for interested players to confirm your participation. Hope you will join us.

2026 RAYMOND JAMES

GOLF

Softball Outing



**Candler Hills
Country Club**



Monday, May 4

Check-in: 1:30 PM

4-Person Scramble Entry Fees:

- \$80 per player
Greens Fees & Dinner
- \$10 - Extra Non-Resident Fee
- \$20 - Dinner Only

Get your foursome together or just sign-up and we will pair players up. Can't play please consider joining us for dinner!



Dinner at Candler Hills Lodge

- Dinner starts at 7:00 PM
- BYOB Please
- Players bringing deserts welcome



Questions Call Bill McElroy

(352) 207-8879

**Please make checks out to
Bill McElroy or CASH.**



*All OTOW Community Softball
Players, Family & Friends are all
invited!*



**Only 1 week left to register at
softball field pavilion with Bill or
Jim during games.**



**All 50/50 raffle proceeds will
support New Uniform
fundraiser.**

